

Message Text

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PAGE 01 TOKYO 18273 130952Z
ACTION OES-06

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 EA-07 ISO-00 FEA-01 ACDA-07 AGRE-00
AID-05 CEA-01 CEQ-01 CG-00 CIAE-00 CIEP-01 COME-00
DLOS-06 DODE-00 DOTE-00 EB-07 EPA-01 ERDA-05 FMC-01
TRSE-00 H-01 INR-07 INT-05 IO-13 JUSE-00 L-03 NSAE-00
NSC-05 NSF-01 OMB-01 PA-01 PM-04 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15
USIA-06 SAL-01 /128 W

----- 107420 /20

P R 130852Z DEC 76
FM AMEMBASSY TOKYO
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 4171
INFO AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
AMEMBASSY OTTAWA
AMEMBASSY SEOUL
USLO PEKING

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E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: PLOS, EFIS, JA, UR
SUBJECT: JAPANESE REACTION TO USSR 200-MILE FISHING ZONE

1. SOVIET ESTABLISHMENT OF 200-MILE FISHING ZONE WAS ONE-DAY SENSATION IN WEEKEND TOKYO PRESS.
2. "SURPRISE" EXPRESSED TO MEDIA BY JAPANESE OFFICIALS ON CLOSE READING RELATES TO SOVIETS' EARLY TIMING, NOT TO CREATION OF ZONE. NEWSPAPERS POINTED OUT THAT FULLY TEN PERCENT OF JAPANESE CATCH HISTORICALLY TAKEN FROM WATERS OVER WHICH USSR HAS PROCLAIMED JURISDICTION. MOVE SEEN AS FURTHER WEAKENING JAPANESE POSITION IN CLIMATIC US-JAPAN BARGAINING ROUND THIS WEEK, AND AS PRESAGING VERY RIGID SOVIET ATTITUDE IN USSR-JAPAN FISHING TALKS SCHEDULED FOR NEXT MARCH. RUSSIANS, ACCORDING TO PRESS, HAD ALREADY LET IT BE KNOWN THAT THEY WOULD INSIST THAT JAPANESE CATCH IN USSR EXCLUSIVE ZONE BE NO GREATER THAN SOVIET CATCH IN JAPANESE COASTAL WATERS.

3. NOTION THAT JAPAN OUGHT TO DECLARE OWN 200-MILE

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EXCLUSIVE FISHING ZONE IN RESPONSE TO MOVES BY US

AND USSR SEEMS TO BE GAINING CURRENCY: I.E., IT
SUGGESTED IN YOMIURI EDITORIAL, VARIOUS INTERPRETIVE
REPORTS AND IN PRESS CONFERENCE CALLED BY HOKKAIDO
FISHERMEN.
HODGSON

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
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